

# ***Kentucky's Environment***

The E-Newsletter of the Environmental Quality Commission

July/August 2003

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## **EQC COMMISSIONERS SHARE EXPERTISE WITH SOUTH AFRICANS**

Members of the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) shared their expertise with a delegation of South African teachers as part of Civitas, an International Project, which promotes the exchange of ideas among countries.

The delegation came to Kentucky to learn more about water resource policies and programs. The availability of clean water is one of the most important issues facing South Africa. Pollution of waterways has contributed to almost half of the people of Africa suffering from water-related diseases. This comes at a time when the United Nations has indicated that water use in the 20th century grew at twice the rate of the population. Some six million people living in South Africa still do not have access to safe clean water while nearly 16 million are still without adequate sanitation.

The country is in the process of finalizing its National Water Resource Strategy, touted as South Africa's "blueprint for survival." The strategy, a first for South Africa, describes the ways in which water resources will be protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled.

The EQC commissioners discussed the Clean Water Act, Kentucky's water pollution control programs, watershed watch programs and the public and community's roles in protecting water resources. The exchange project was hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort. For more information on the Civitas program visit <http://www.civnet.org/>

### ***Did you know:***

After 31 years of providing a voice for the public in state decision-making, the EQC general fund budget for July 2003 through June 2004 was eliminated. Temporary funding for one year has been secured but we need your help.

### ***You have a voice in our future:***

Visit the EQC Guestbook at [www.eqc.ky.gov](http://www.eqc.ky.gov) to express support for EQC and adequate funding for environmental programs. Please feel free to also share your views about environmental issues and needs in the state.

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### **EQC Commissioners:**

Aloma Dew, Chair, *Owensboro*  
Betsy Rudd Bennett, *Louisville*  
Patty Wallace, *Louisa*  
Gary Revlett, *Shelbyville*  
Jean Dorton, *Paintsville*  
Gordon Garner, *Prospect*  
Lindell Ormsbee, *Lexington*

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## State News



### Summer Air Quality Index -- 1 800 Air in Ky

Keeping track of the current air quality information can help you minimize exposure to unhealthy levels of air pollution. This is important for people who are sensitive to air pollution, including young children, people with asthma and other lung diseases and the elderly. Kentuckians can call toll free **800-247-4659** and get today's air quality index (AQI). The AQI is a reporting tool that measures air quality on a scale of 0 to 300 -- with 0-50 being good and 300 being very unhealthy. To access Louisville's Air Quality Index visit <http://www.apcd.org/> or call **(502)-574-3319**.

### Swimming Advisories Warn of Bacteria

The Ky. Division of Water and the Cabinet for Health Services are continuing swimming advisories that have been in place for several years in different areas of the state. Kentuckians should avoid swimming in these waters because of high levels of fecal coliform bacteria. The bacteria create a potential for acquiring infectious diseases, particularly diarrheal illnesses. Advisories are in effect for the **Upper Cumberland River** as follows:

- From Fourmile Bridge (Hwy. 2014) to Pineville Hwy. 66 Bridge.

- Wallins Creek Bridge (Highway 219) to Harlan.

- Martins Fork from Harlan to the Cawood Water Plant.

- Catrons Creek, Clover Fork, Straight Creek.

- Poor Fork from Harlan to Looney Creek.

- Looney Creek from the mouth to Lynch Water Plant Bridge.

The swimming advisory continues for the **North Fork of the Kentucky River** upstream of Chavies. The **Licking River** from Banklick Creek to the confluence with the Ohio River remains under a swimming advisory.

The advisory includes all of Banklick Creek

and Three Mile Creek. The agencies also warn against swimming in rivers directly below **urban watersheds**, particularly after a significant rainfall.

### Kentucky Ethanol Plant Moves Forward

An ethanol plant, known as Commonwealth Agri-Energy, is the newest venture of Hopkinsville Elevator. In hopes of replacing lost income from the 64 million pounds of tobacco that are currently grown in the 30 counties represented by the co-op, the plant will use nearly 7.3 million bushels of corn to produce 20 million gallons of ethanol annually. An air quality construction/operating permit was issued on Jan. 10, 2003.

### Releases of Toxic Chemicals Declines in U.S.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released the findings from the 2001 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), the annual report on the amount of toxic chemicals released into the environment. Total releases of chemicals nationwide decreased by 15.5 percent, or 1.05 billion pounds, from the reporting year 2000 to 2001. Based on trends since 1988, chemical releases have decreased approximately 54.5 percent. To access the TRI data for the U.S. and Kentucky visit [www.epa.gov/tri/](http://www.epa.gov/tri/)



### Tons of Old Computers Collected

On June 28 the University of Kentucky teamed with Lexmark and Dell to gather 47.5 tons of obsolete and old computer equipment, enough to cover an entire football field. One of the first to arrive to contribute was a school bus from Danville, filled with old computers; it was soon followed by a car load from the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. The city of Lexington was able to save thousands of dollars by contributing six truckloads of obsolete computer equipment. Dell has teamed with the National Cristina Foundation in identifying non-profit organizations that can benefit from refurbished computers. Organizations such as the Bluegrass Technology Center and the Urban League of Lexington will receive computers from Saturday's collection.

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## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

**July 22 - Soils, Geology and the Water that runs thru it - GIS Technical Forum.** Kentucky State Univ.

Contact: Office of Geographic Information (502) 573-1450 or [OGI.Inquiry@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:OGI.Inquiry@mail.state.ky.us)

**July 29-30 - Interactive Forum on Geophysical Technologies for Detecting Underground Coal Mine**

**Voids.** Hyatt Regency Hotel, Lexington. Contact: Geaunita Caylor, (859) 257-2713 or see <http://www.msha.gov/events/conf.htm>

**Aug. 2 Natural Bridge State Park and Nature Preserve - Kentucky Insects Slide Show and Hike.** Contact the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission at (502) 573-2886 to sign up for the hike or visit <http://www.naturepreserves.ky.gov/>

**Aug. 5 - Environmental Basics for the Wood Industry.** Community Center, London. Contact: Bob Bauer, Ky. Forest Assn. at (502) 695-3979 or visit the KFA Web site at [www.kfia.org](http://www.kfia.org)

**Aug. 11-12 - The Governor's 2003 Local Issues Conference.** Galt House, Louisville. See [www.dlg.ky.gov](http://www.dlg.ky.gov) or call (800) 346-5606.

**Aug. 19-20 - Solving the Watershed Puzzle: Watershed Roundtable Conference.** Lexington, Holiday Inn North. See [http://kywatersheds.org/Roundtable/Roundtable\\_article.htm](http://kywatersheds.org/Roundtable/Roundtable_article.htm) or contact: Lee Colten, Div. of Water, (502) 564-3410 .

**Aug 18-21 - 2003 GIS Conference: 10 Years of Discovery.** Hyatt Regency, Louisville. See <http://ogis.state.ky.us/2003conference.htm> Contact: Office of Geographic Information (502) 573-1450 or [OGI.Inquiry@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:OGI.Inquiry@mail.state.ky.us)

**Aug. 19-20 - Environmental Permitting and Reporting Annual Conference.** Ky. Chamber of Commerce. Radisson Plaza Hotel, Lexington. Contact Sarah Vaught (502) 695-4700 ext. 3022 or see <http://www.kychamber.com>

**Sept. 5-6 - Mountain Tradition Herb Festival, Healing the Earth, Healing Ourselves.** Buckhorn Lake Campground. Contact: Linda Heller, (606) 672-6444 or e-mail [beyondyonder@webtv.net](mailto:beyondyonder@webtv.net) or visit [geocities.com/beyondyonder/festival](http://geocities.com/beyondyonder/festival).

**Sept. 28-Oct. 1 - National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs Annual Conference.** Galt House, Louisville. Contact: Steve Hohmann at [steve.hohmann@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:steve.hohmann@mail.state.ky.us) or (502) 564-2141.

## PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS

This listing is not official. Contact the various divisions listed for more information about these and other permits.

### Ky. Division of Waste Management - Hazardous Waste Notices

Contact: Mary Ann Goins, (502) 564-6716.

- **LWD, Inc.,** Calvert City (Marshall Co.) Notice of Intent to Terminate Interim Status and deny the Hazardous Waste Permit Application to construct and operate a hazardous waste incinerator and disposal facility due to ongoing violations and failure to demonstrate financial responsibility to operate the facility.
- **CC Metals & Alloys,** Calvert City (Marshall Co.) Tentative decision to approve a variance request to allow the facility to handle fumed silica ash as a solid waste for recycling.
- **Goodrich Corporation,** Calvert City (Marshall Co.) Tentative decision to renew a hazardous waste post-closure permit for maintenance/ monitoring of closed ponds.

**Thomas Industries,** Beaver Dam (Ohio Co.) Tentative decision to approve a post-closure permit for closed industrial site for 10-year period. Testing reveals soil and groundwater contaminated.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS

This listing is not official. Contact the various divisions for more information about these and other permits open for public comment.

### Ky. Division of Water - Water Discharge Permits/Public Notices

See <http://water.nr.state.ky.us/dow/public.htm> or contact Pam Horne, (502) 564-3410.

- **29 KPDES Water Discharge Permits.** (Public notices 2003 18-19).

### Ky. Division for Air Quality Permit Notices

Contact: George Day, (502) 573-3382.

- **Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V regs do not apply)** - Browns Plating Service, Paducah (McCracken Co.).
- **Conditional Major Source Operating Permit (restricts operation Title V does not apply)** - Griffin Ind., Henderson (Henderson Co.); Transmontaigne Terminal, Owensboro (Daviess Co.).
- **Title V Operating Permit** - Western Energy Corp., Hawesville (Hancock Co.); Eastern Ky. Univ., Richmond (Madison Co.); Ahlstrom Filtration, Madisonville (Hopkins Co.); Blackburn Correctional, Lexington (Fayette Co.); Local Sanitation, Morehead (Rowan Co.); Bavarian Trucking, Walton (Boone); Blue Ridge Recycling, Irvine (Estill); CTNA MFG LTD, Mayfield (Graves Co.); Univ. of Ky., Lexington (Fayette Co.)
- **Title V Construction/Operating Permit** - 101st Airborne Div., Fort Campbell (Christian Co.); Mason Co. Fiscal Ct., Maysville (Mason Co.).
- **Significant Revision Title V** - Green Valley Env. Corp., Ashland (Greenup Co.); Dozit Co. Inc., Morganfield (Union Co.); Tri-K Landfill, Stanford (Lincoln Co.); Southern Sanitation Inc., Russellville (Logan Co.); United Waste Systems KY, Lily (Laurel Co.); Republic Services of KY, Beaver Dam (Ohio Co.); Hardin County Landfill, Elizabethtown (Hardin Co.); Daviess Co. Fiscal Court, Owensboro (Daviess Co.); Celanese Ltd., Calvert City (Marshall Co.); Marathon Ashland Pet., Cattlettsburg (Boyd Co.).
- **Synthetic Minor Operating Permit at a Title V Source (PSD regs do not apply)** - Continental Web Press Inc., Walton (Boone Co.) Cooper Tire & Rubber, Mt. Sterling (Montgomery Co.).
- **Synthetic Minor Construction/Operating Permit at a Title V (restricts operation PSD regs do not apply)** - Marathon Ashland Pet., Cattlettsburg (Boyd Co.).
- **Renew Conditional Major Permit** - Continental Web Press, Walton (Boone Co.); MPD, Owensboro (Daviess Co.).
- **Renew Title V Permit** - North Star Steel, Calvert City (Marshall Co.).
- **Prevention of Significant Deterioration Construction/Operating Permit** - CTNA MFG LTD, Mayfield (Graves Co.).

### Louisville APC Air Quality Permit Notices

Contact: Jesse Goldsmith at [jesse.goldsmith@loukymetro.org](mailto:jesse.goldsmith@loukymetro.org)

- **FEDDOOP (synthetic minor) permits** under public notice.

Zeochem; Sud-Chemie, West Plant; Sud Chemie, South Plant; Puritan Uniform Rental; Service Welding & Machine Company, 700 E Main St.; Service Welding & Machine Company, 175 N Wenzel Ave.

[To view Federal Notices](#)



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## **PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS *continued***

### **Ky. Transportation Public Notices/Meetings**

Ky. Transportation Cabinet public meetings planned in July are:

- **Extension of KY 645 to I-64** between Morehead and the Industrial Parkway in Carter, Elliott, Lawrence and Rowan counties. **July 10**, Roy F. Collier Community Ctr., Inez, 5 to 8 p.m.
- **I-66 public review of bands** that have been recommended by the Citizen's Advisory Committee for further study as potential locations for the future 1-66 alignments. **July 22**, London Community Center, 5 to 8 p.m. see <http://www.interstate66.com/pike/index.phtml>
- **Improved highway between Harlan and Hazard** public input meetings.
  - **Aug. 12**. Hazard Comm. College, Learning Resource Ctr., 5 - 7 p.m.
  - **Aug. 14**. Nixon Center Gym next to Leslie Co. H.S., Hyden, 5 - 7 p.m..
  - **Aug. 26**. National Guard Armory, US 421 South, Harlan, 5 - 7 p.m.

To view these and other announcements visit the Web site road project web site at <http://roadprojects.ky.gov/>

## **FEDERAL NOTICES/PUBLICATIONS**

• **U.S. EPA Draft Report on the Environment** - An assessment of U.S. environmental quality and human health using available scientific data, gathered from more than 30 other federal agencies, departments, states, tribes and non-governmental organizations. Visit EPA's Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/indicators> to learn more about the U.S. EPA Environmental Indicators Initiative and comment on the report.

### **Daniel Boone National Forest Public Notices**

**Stanton District** (606) 663-2852.

- Clark Energy Special Use Permit for electrical distribution lines on 2,700 feet of National Forest Land.

**London District** (606) 864-4163.

- Jackson Co. public schools land exchange to purchase 80-acre national forest tract near McKee.
- Prescribed burning for 3, 816 acres over a four-year period.
- Reissuance of contract for mineral materials for the Indian Creek Limestone Quarry for 10 years.

**Redbird District** (606) 598-2192.

- ABARTA Oil & Gas Pipeline Special Use for construction of 3,000 feet of gas pipeline.
- Precommercial thinning of mixed hardwoods on 128 acres in Clay and Leslie counties.

• **U.S. EPA 2001 Toxics Release Inventory** - annual report on the amount of toxic chemicals released into the environment. See [www.epa.gov/tri](http://www.epa.gov/tri)

## **GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**2003 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants**: 2003 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants to improve the effectiveness of the rural volunteer fire departments. Applications are due Aug. 1. See <http://www.forestry.ky.gov/news.asp>. Contact: Stewart West, Ky. Div. of Forestry at [stewart.west@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:stewart.west@mail.state.ky.us) or call 502-564-4496.

**Recreational Trails Program Grants**: The Dept. for Local Government has \$750,000 for trail development and maintenance for Fiscal Year 2004. State, local, federal and nonprofit organizations are eligible. Contact: Buddy Renaker, Dept. of Local Government, (800) 346-5606.

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## **EQC Activities**

### **EQC Tours Martin County Coal Slurry Pond and Impacted Headwaters**

On October 11, 2000, a coal slurry impoundment system at the Martin County Coal Corporation near Inez, Martin Co. breached into an underground mine beneath the impoundment area, resulting in one of the largest slurry spills ever in the southeastern U.S. While no one was injured in the incident, significant environmental damage resulted. The spill impaired water quality along 100 miles of the Wolf and Rockcastle creeks and the Coldwater, Levisa and Tug forks of the Big Sandy River. On June 16, 2003 EQC held a public forum at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park to receive a status report on the site from federal and state officials. EQC also toured the mine site and impacted area on July 17. EQC is in the process of developing recommendations concerning the cleanup.



June 17, 2003



Efforts are ongoing to reclaim the 72-acre failed impoundment. The slurry has been solidified and coarse coal refuse is being spread over the impoundment at this time.



June 17, 2003



Slurry has been removed along waterways and bottomland. This phase of the cleanup is considered complete.



June 17, 2003



A plan to restore water quality and the ecological integrity of the waterways has been developed. State and federal officials are overseeing the restoration of these waterways. Elevated levels of 5 heavy metals have been detected in the impacted watershed, according to the Dept. of Environmental Protection.



## Environmental Quality Commission Public Meeting

### SUMMER IN KENTUCKY 2003: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OF CONCERN

July 15, 2003

Capitol Annex - Room 113 - Frankfort

#### 1 p.m. OPEN MEETING

#### 1:15 SUMMER IN KENTUCKY 2003: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OF CONCERN

#### Mosquitoes and Pesticide Spraying: Is it Safe?

- Health and Environmental Concerns
- Ira Linville, Ky. Dept. of Agriculture
- Dr. Susan Billings, Epidemiologist, Dept. for Public Health

#### Summer Smog Alert

- Ozone pollution status report
- Update on 8-hour ozone standard/designation of counties.
- John Lyons, Director, Div. for Air Quality

#### How Safe are our Waterways?

- Swimming Advisories and other water quality concerns
- Update on antidegradation rule
- Jeff Pratt, Director, Div. of Water

#### 2:30 OVERVIEW OF DANIEL BOONE NATIONAL FOREST PLAN AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

- Marie Walker, Rick Wilcox, DBNF

#### 3:00 OTHER BUSINESS

#### 3:30 ADJOURN

Updated agenda information is available on the EQC Web site. The public is encouraged to attend this meeting and ask questions or offer comments. All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.



Providing a voice for the  
citizens of Kentucky  
for 31 Years

*The Environmental Quality Commission is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions.*

*The Environmental Quality Commission welcomes your input.*

Telephone (502)564-2150 ext. 160

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